

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Prior Application: S. HONMA et al  
Serial No. 09/606,050  
Filed: June 29, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2153  
Examiner: M. Winters  
For: COMPUTER SYSTEM HAVING A STORAGE AREA  
NETWORK AND METHOD OF HANDLING DATA  
IN THE COMPUTER SYSTEM

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 17, 2003

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above application  
as follows.